

**2012-2013  
Board of Directors**

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President's Message

## Kimberly's Adventures

### Resolution: Firmness of Purpose

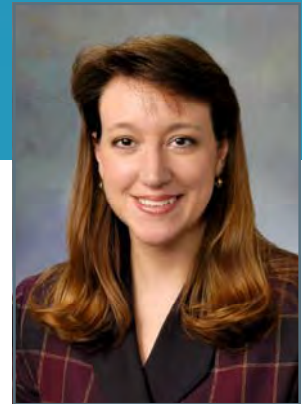
Resolution is defined as (a) a firm decision to do or not to do something, (b) a formal expression of an action, and (c) the number of pixels (individual points of color) contained on a display monitor. While I could go on with a lengthy, technical dissertation about the later definition, we will stick to the first two for now.

The start of a new year brings a re-birth and a fresh start. The making of New Year Resolutions is a long time tradition for many. It is inspiring to create new goals for oneself – to make us healthier, to be more connected to friends and family, or to achieve a personal milestone. Yet, it can also be disheartening when we fail to achieve the goals we set out for ourselves, but don't be discouraged. There are many things to be proud of – many things we take for granted or forget to see for what they really are: Gifts of Purpose.

Being an Altrusan gives each of us a purpose—you took formal action on this when you became an Altrusan. You did not “join” Altrusa—anyone can “join” a club or organization. No, you “became” an Altrusan. As Mamie L Bass stated so many years ago—and it is still true today—“it not enough to be good; Altrusans must be good for something”—and each of you, as Altrusans, live up to that purpose every day. You took action by making a formal expression to do good and became an Altrusan.

Every day, Altrusa's mission and purpose is fulfilled through the many committee and community projects that we perform impacting the lives of both strangers we may never see again and those we have come to know over the years and call friend. I am inspired each time a committee talks about a project coming up or recently completed. The passion in their voices and actions taken to see the project through shows that we are not just doing good—we are good for something. We have purpose. We have passion. And, when many Altrusans come together, we have firmness in our purpose to positively impact the lives of those around us.

While January 1st may prompt you to make a resolution, remind yourself that you live up to a resolution you made some time back and you live up to that resolution everyday as an Altrusan. Be resolved to continue to do good in the coming year. Share your firmness of purpose with others. Continue to formally express your purpose through Altrusa action. While tech support is your problem with pixels solution, Altrusa is your resolution solution.



Aloha: Kimberly relaxes with the locals in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii, after enjoying an ocean-front luau at the Royal Kona Resort.

*Discover Altrusa!*

Kimberly D Kierce  
2012-2013 President  
Kimberly.Kierce@cor.gov  
972.744.4502

*Discover Altrusa: Your Passport to Adventure*

**Nominating Committee Report**

**SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2013-2014 ANNOUNCED**

*By Susan Frensley, Nominating Committee Chair*

The Nominating Committee has completed its task of developing the proposed slate of officers for 2011-2012 and advised the President, President-Elect, Recording Secretary, and **Altrusa Tidings** editor. The slate was presented to the current Board of Directors at its meeting on Thursday, January 24<sup>th</sup>. At the club's request the nominating committee is presenting a single slate. The election will be held at the March 2 business meeting.

The nominees are as follows:

President-Elect	Gloria Sandoval	Vice President	Sue McElveen
Recording Secretary	Marsha Peters	Director 2013-2014	Cindy McIntyre
Corresponding Secretary	Gerry Carron	Director 2013-2015	Jo Leeper
Administrative Treasurer	Jenn Rohm	Director 2013-2015	Kay George
Foundation Treasurer	Courtenay Tanner		

Pam Kovacs, current President-Elect will be our President. Linda Korn will return for her second year as Director.

Members in good standing (dues and fees paid) wishing to vote absentee should then request an absentee ballot from the Chair of the Nominating Committee. Absentee ballots must be returned to the Nominating Committee Chair no later than the day before the election. All ballots must contain the member's printed name. Absentee ballots received the day of the election will not be counted. A member may request an absentee ballot be sent via email, but it will be the

responsibility of that member to verify that the Nominating Committee Chair received the member's vote by return email. The email must contain the member's name that is voting.

The Nominating Committee was chaired by Susan Frensley. Committee Members were Rose Daughety, Norma Hammerlund, Mary Beth McLemore, and Ginger Tonne.

**Altrusa Accent**

**RESPONSIBILITIES OF DELEGATES**

*Excerpted from the Altrusa Encyclopedia 2011-2013*

Every Altrusa Club in good standing that has a total active membership for whom dues have been paid of twenty or fewer is entitled to one delegate and one alternate to District Conference and International Convention. For each additional twenty members or portion thereof, the Club is entitled to one additional delegate and one additional alternate, up to a maximum of five of each. At least 60 days before the scheduled District Conference, the paid membership of each local Club is counted to determine the number of delegates and alternates allowed. The number of delegates and alternates to International Convention is similarly counted on March 15 of Convention years.

**DELEGATE REPORTS ON CONFERENCE OR CONVENTION**

Members of the Club's delegation to a District Conference or International Convention are expected to make oral and written reports to the membership on all important and fun aspects of the Conference or Convention.

*(Continued on page 3)*

Council Members pictured from left to right:  
 Steve Mitchell, Mark Solomon, Scott Dunn,  
 Mayor Bob Townsend, Amir Omar, Mayor Pro  
 Tem Laura Maczka and Kendal Hartley.

Discover Altrusa, your passport to adventure for 45 years.



Ability House Committee Report

**ALTRUSA OF RICHARDSON HONORED BY ABILITY CONNECTION TEXAS**

Ability Connection Holiday Greetings Altrusa!

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Ability Connection I am honored to share that Altrusa of Richardson was recognized as an ACT outstanding organization for 2012 on Tuesday, December 4, 2012!

...and as part of the 2012 recognition, on behalf of the Ability House residents we want to thank you for their Thanksgiving dinner and for the outing to the Nutcracker at the Eisemann Center – they greatly enjoyed dinner and loved the Nutcracker!

On behalf of all of us at Ability Connection we greatly appreciate Altrusa's continuing support and friendship with the Ability House residents.

We hope you enjoy the attached photo of the Altrusa award...and you have our very best wishes for a wonderfully happy holiday season!

*Bill*

Bill Knudsen  
 President/CEO  
 Ability Connection Texas



(Continued from page 2)

**ALTRUSA ACCENT: DELEGATE RESPONSIBILITIES**

**SUGGESTED REPORT HIGHLIGHTS**

- ◇ Elections/Appointments. List the names and Clubs of each new officer and incoming Committee Chair.
- ◇ New Objectives/Programs. In an election year, the incoming District Governor presents the District objectives at Conference; at the International Convention, the International President states the new biennium goals. Record these objectives and goals for the Club.
- ◇ Budget Adoption. Share copies of the District's upcoming annual budget/International's biennial budget.
- ◇ Bylaws Revisions. List the changes made to bylaws and policies voted on by the delegates.
- ◇ Workshops/Seminars. Report on any new insights or techniques for improving the Club's operation.
- ◇ Speakers. Record pertinent quotes from speeches to incorporate into the report.
- ◇ Awards. Record who won all of the awards given at the Conference or Convention.
- ◇ Resource Materials. Turn over materials that were distributed to the designated Officer or Committee Chair.
- ◇ Foundation Progress. Share the latest figures on awards and grants; report on Foundation goals and objectives.
- ◇ Social Events. Share the fellowship side of Convention and Conference.

**OWT Committee Report**

**PLANNING FOR TENTH ANNUAL OUTSTANDING WOMEN OF TODAY LUNCHEON IS UNDERWAY!**

*By Janice Swallow, OWT Chair*

2013 will be our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary for the Outstanding Women of Today (OWT) awards luncheon! The luncheon will be held Friday, October 25 at the Hyatt Regency North Dallas. The chairs for 2013 will be Gloria Sandoval, Sue McElveen, Janie Jaquier, Dena Davis and Janice Swallow. The chairs have been meeting and are excited to get their respective committees in place. Keep in mind this is the one event every member is to participate. Please consider signing up for two activities, 1 pre-event and 1 event day.

<b>Gloria Sandoval</b>	<b>Sue McElveen</b>	<b>Janie Jaquier</b>	<b>Dena Davis</b>	<b>Janice Swallow</b>
Hotel Liaison	Program	Slide Presentation	Nominees	Budget Coordinator
Thank you / Tax letters	Printing	Master of Ceremony	Awards/Certificates	Reservations
Decorations/Corsages	Raffle	Nominee Reception	Judge Selection	Sponsorships
Public Relations	Guest Speaker	Ushers	Judges Books	Check-In
	Photographer		Invitations	Signage

We're looking forward to hosting our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary luncheon and hope you are getting just as excited. Let's see what we can do to make this as special an event as the previous nine years. Each year holds memories of recognizing the accomplishments of ladies in our community as well as funding Altrusa projects and scholarship opportunities.

**OUTSTANDING WOMEN OF TODAY HISTORY**

The YWCA originally hosted a luncheon recognizing outstanding women within the area. Altrusa of Richardson decided to replace their current fundraiser with this as their new one when the YWCA relocated to Dallas as they no longer sponsored this event. So appropriate for a woman's club to honor local outstanding women!



The name "Outstanding Women of Today" was derived from the YWCA event. The addition of "Builders of Tomorrow" was added by Bonnie Perry whose forward thinking ensured younger women of our community were included. The OWT logo was created in 2009 by Kimberly Kierce and commercial artist Debra Luhowy. OWT has proven to be a viable event in providing funding for the Foundation budget which supports our community projects, contributions and scholarships. OWT has also ensured the long awaited community recognition.

In the beginning we hosted both an auction and the luncheon fundraisers and subsidized the budget from reserve funds. At the first luncheon, the hotel charged only \$5 per meal as a cost to them to aide Altrusa with their new fundraiser. The event has been held at the same location even though the name of the hotel and contacts have changed. This hotel has kept down the cost of the meals and remained flexible with the event. The hotel has afforded us a space to host the nominee reception, although not always the same space. No other venue has been able to offer as lucrative a deal.

*(Continued on page 5)*

(Continued from page 4)

**PLANNING FOR 10TH ANNUAL...**

We've modified the categories over the years as we expanded from Richardson to the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. And nominees can be nominated more than once if they were not the OWT recipient. A list of the nominees is maintained on the Altrusa Richardson web page.

Year	President	Chairs	Nominee Count	Foundation Contribution
2004	Janice Swallow	Virginia Coffey, Janice Swallow	13	\$ 2,500.00
2005	Cindy Murray	Janice Swallow, 2004 New Members	22	\$ 4,754.26
2006	Jean Stuart	Jan Skinner, Bonnie Peters	32	\$ 10,771.25
2007	Bobbi Klein	Mary Beth McLemore, Janice Swallow	27	\$ 15,326.21
2008	Brenda Boston	Jan Skinner, Kimberly Kierce	26	\$ 13,680.74
2009	Deb Bourland	Marsha Peters, Hazel Weathers	32	\$ 18,550.00
2010	Mary Beth McLemore	Julianne Lovelace, Courtenay Tanner	31	\$ 15,816.18
2011	Bonnie Perry	Julianne Lovelace, Courtenay Tanner	19	\$ 15,138.27
2012	Kimberly Kierce	Brenda Boston, Cindy McIntyre	36	\$ 20,523.05
2013	Pam Kovacs	Gloria Sandoval, Dena Davis, Sue McElveen, Janie Jaquier, Janice Swallow		

**Outreach Committee Report**

**OUTREACH COMMITTEE CITES SUCCESSES, HINTS AT NEW HANDS-ON PROJECT**

*By Marsha Peters, Outreach Committee Chair*

What has the Outreach Committee been up to? We supported NETWORK of Community Ministries by collecting over 100 pounds of food, collecting toys for the Santa Program, and providing \$400 worth of school supplies. We provided volunteers for Richardson Reads One Book and served dinner at Camp Summit. We donated \$300 to Operation Safe Haven.

If you aren't familiar with Operation Safe Haven, you might be interested to know that last year our president tasked the past presidents to interview community leaders to determine if there were needs that were not being met that Altrusa might consider addressing. Richardson's three Police Chiefs met with the interviewers and identified the need for emergency housing for victims of domestic violence or witnesses in the middle of the night. When other agencies are open during the day they can get the needed help, but there was no immediate shelter. Mimi Tanner was instrumental in working out the logistics and requesting the financial support from the Outreach Committee.

We have an ongoing project collecting toiletries and other personal care products for the food pantry at NETWORK, as well as continuing to collect items for their new Clothes Closet.

*Stay tuned for an opportunity to participate in a hands-on project for a local women's shelter.*

**BOARD ACTIONS**

- ◇ Approved contract with hotel for 2013 Outstanding Women of Today
- ◇ Received mid-year reports from Admin and Foundation Committees
- ◇ Accepted resignation of Secretary, assigned her duties to Board members
- ◇ Decided to order badges for new members from new vendor



## Project Report

### **ALTRUSANS JUDGE SCIENCE FAIR ENTRIES AT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

By Mary Beth McLemore

Canyon Creek Elementary School again asked Nancy Rohm to provide Altrusa judges for its all-school Science Fair projects. Seven Altrusans: (back row) Shelley Sarvarian, Barbara Berthold, Mary Beth McLemore, and Barbara Cornelius and (front row) Ellen Stevenson, former member Melody Terry, and Nancy Rohm, divided into pairs with Nancy overseeing. They worked from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

The science teacher provided a wonderful lunch in the new teacher's lounge. The principal and many teachers thanked the Altrusans for helping. All agreed that it was a morning of fun, service, and enjoyment working with sister Altrusans.



## Project Report

### **ALTRUSA ADDS TO OPERATION CARE'S CHRISTMAS SUCCESS**

By Jane Tucker, International Relations Committee Chair

As part of Altrusa's recognition of the United Nation's Human Rights Day on December 10<sup>th</sup>, our club, along with the help of other District Nine clubs, donated shoes and socks to Operation Care International, a nonprofit organization that helps the homeless. At our December 6<sup>th</sup> business meeting, Susie Jennings, founder of this organization, spoke to our club about Operation Care International and accepted our donations of shoes and socks. These donations, along with many others, allowed Operation Care International to donate a total of 6,200 new shoes, tons of toys, books and balls to over 9,000 guests at the Christmas Gift 2012 event held on December 15<sup>th</sup> at the Dallas Convention Center. Over 3,873 volunteers help serve over 11,808 meals and over 6,500 cupcakes were donated and passed out to the attendees. The medical and vision area of the event gave away a total of 383 eyeglasses. Over 2,700 blankets, 1,372 sleeping bags, and 4,700 coats were also distributed to the attendees. The event received a letter of recognition for Governor Rick Perry and was given media coverage from TV Channels 4, 8, and 11, along with articles published in the Dallas Morning News.



Susie Jennings, founder of Operation Care International and one of this year's Altrusa OWT nominee's, feels that it only takes ONE person to make a difference in the life of a homeless person and help redirect their life. She wishes to thank our group for donating to Operation Care International and helping redirect and transform the lives of the people her organization serves. Even though the theme of this year's event was "Feeding the 5000", they actually fed over 11,000, making this year's event a huge success. The event area even had to be increased to accommodate a massive children's area with Bounce Houses, Puppet Shows, Pony Rides, Petting Zoo, Family Portraits, and much more. She states " the BIG smiles of the children as they played in the area and received cupcakes was priceless."

### Project Report

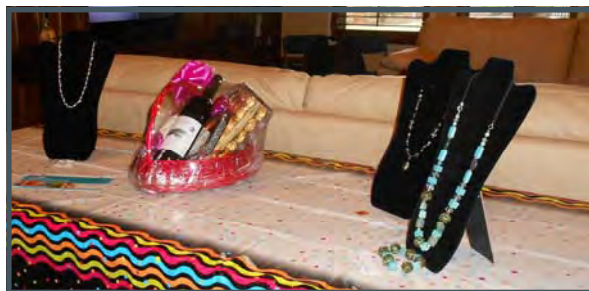
## A NEW WAY TO WELCOME THE NEW YEAR: *NEW YEAR, NEW YOU!*

By Jane Merz, Membership Retention Committee

It may have been rather dreary outside, but about 25 of us enjoyed A New Year, New You event sponsored by the Retention Committee and held at Sandy Martin's manse. The food was delish and the mimosas divine.

We had four top-notch speakers. Mia Emslie, a Mary Kay representative, gave us the scoop on the latest age-defying products, and demonstrated eye make-up tricks. Kristy Marrone from Draper's and Damon's showed us various ways to spiff up our outfits with scarves, jewelry and other accessories. Julie Pan, a registered dietician and former member of Altrusa Richardson, discussed the link between living longer and better with various supplements. And finally, Jimmy Harris, a Berkner grad, talked briefly about the benefits of massage – but more importantly, gave 10-minute massages to anyone who was interested. What a bonus! We had an opportunity to spend time with each presenter and ended our day with ideas for our own New Year, New You.

We had five door prizes: a necklace by Julie Horan was won by Bonnie Perry, Dena Davis won a lovely necklace and bracelet created by Jan Skinner, Jan Skinner walked away with a Spa Finder certificate, a Silpada piece done in pearls was won by Brenda Duckett, and one of our presenters, Julie Pan, won a wine basket donated by Sigel's.





**Project Preview****AN EVENING OF DINING AND MUSIC AT THE EISEMANN CENTER: FEB. 16***By Bonnie Perry, Membership Retention Committee*

The Membership Retention Committee offers yet another way for you to spend some quality time with other Altrusans and their guests! Join us for an evening out, enjoying dinner and music! Two dozen of us did this last year, and we had a great time!

The evening will begin with dinner at 6:30 pm at Prelude Cafe located on the Green-Mezzanine Gallery in the Eisemann Center lobby. Bonnie Perry will make a group reservation for our dinner together. The estimated buffet cost will be \$20.95 (tax and tip not included, subject to change).

At 8:00 pm, we will enjoy a concert of traditional Irish folk music by Cherish the Ladies, presented by the Richardson Symphony Orchestra. With their unique blend of vocals, captivating arrangements, and stunning step dancing, Cherish the Ladies combines all facets of Irish culture into an immensely humorous and entertaining package.

Each couple attending the concert will receive a rose and a box of Russell Stover chocolates.

Attendees must purchase their own concert tickets. To get the Altrusa group price of \$30, call the RSO office at 972-234-4195. Usual prices are \$35 for Orchestra seats, \$80 for Loge tickets, and \$20 for Mezzanine seats.

NOTE: Please RSVP on-line so we can reserve the correct number of tables for dinner. Or contact Bonnie Perry via email or phone. Attendees are responsible for purchasing their own symphony tickets (in advance) and meals (the night of the event).

**Project Preview****BOOK CLUB TO CELEBRATE PASSOVER MARCH 25TH; PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND!***By Bobbi Klein, Altrusa Wine and Chocolate Literary Society*

Even if you don't regularly attend our book club meetings, this one should be on your calendar! We will be celebrating a special modified Passover Seder dinner, during which the story of Passover is passed down from generation to generation. If you have ever wondered about how Passover is celebrated, here's your opportunity to find out!

The word "seder" means "order" and the Haggadah is the name of the "book" which is used to help us tell the story in the correct "order". For our March book club selection, we will read a traditional Passover Haggadah, which can be read straight through in less than an hour. On Monday evening, March 25<sup>th</sup> (the first night of Passover) at 6:00 pm, we will meet at Friends Place for a special "Women's Seder". Using our own "Altrusa Haggadah", we will go through our own seder meal. We will discuss Passover, the two different haggadahs, and other facets of the seder. If you would like to borrow a copy of the traditional haggadah to read, it will be available from Bobbi Klein.



Reservations will be necessary. The cost will be \$2, plus everyone will be asked to bring an item to contribute to the meal. Reservations can be made via the website, and a sign-up list will be available in March, with suggestions of needed food items to assist you in deciding what to bring. More information will follow next month.



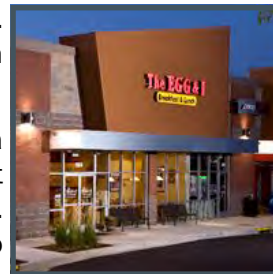
**Project Preview**

**MEMBERSHIP RETENTION COMMITTEE PLANS FEBRUARY LUNCH BUNCH**

*By Ann Eisemann, Membership Retention Committee*

Our next Lunch Bunch be Tuesday, February 26, at 11:30 at The Egg and I, 930 E. Campbell Road, Suite # 101. The Egg and I is about four blocks east of Central on the south side of Campbell.

What is Lunch Bunch? It is a little escape from ordinary life, where Altrusa sisters meet at a Richardson restaurant to relax, eat, chat, laugh—just to enjoy each other’s company! It is a great opportunity for you to bring someone who might be interested in becoming an Altrusan. Everyone is welcome! Lunch Bunch meets quarterly, so if you miss this one, you will have to wait until May. That’s too far away! Sign up on our website or let Ann Eisemann know if you can attend.



**Project Preview**

**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE SAYS: SAVE THE DATE!!**

*By Liz Luthans, Leadership Development Committee Chair*

You’ll want a ticket to ride on Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, from 9:30 a.m. to noon, at Altrusa of Richardson’s Spring Leadership Development Event. The Leadership Committee is partnering with the Membership Retention Committee to focus on fostering engagement, energy, enrichment, and excitement among all our club members. We have activities planned to engage you. We’ll have food to energize you. We expect the discourse to be enriching. We hope our excitement surrounding this event is infectious. More details to follow soon.

**Project Preview**

**FEBRUARY 23, HAPPY BIRTHDAY VERA!**

*By Barbara Cornelius, Ability House Committee Chair*

Vera’s birthday celebration is Saturday, Feb. 23, at 1:30 pm, and everyone is invited! It doesn’t matter whether you are on the Ability House committee – come anyway! If you’re uncomfortable with the residents because they’re disabled, that’s OK. Maybe you might come watch – the six residents love having us there.

Vera Avery’s (she won’t tell her age) actual birthday is on Feb. 23, so it is a great birthday to attend! The address is 615 Woodhaven Place in East Richardson. It’s only 45 minutes of your time – what more could you ask for?

**SPRING ORIENTATION /RE-ORIENTATION** ★

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16 at 9:30 AM**

**Our Altrusa Adventure Cruise**  
**will stop in New Orleans**  
 (more recognizable as Friends Place)  
**as we “laissez les bons temps rouler” \*\***

★ **and learn more about Altrusa fun and service** ★

**Our Port of Call:**  
**Friends Place, 1960 Nantucket, Richardson, TX**  
 (just south of Campbell Road)

**Itinerary:**

9:30 am—10:15 am	Breakfast Buffet
10:15 am —11:30 am	Helpful hints for your Altrusa Adventure

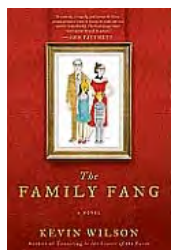
**\*\* “LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL” FOR YOU AND ME**

Project Preview

**AWCLS WILL DISCUSS *LOVING FRANK* AT FEBRUARY MEETING**

By Kay George, Altrusa Wine and Chocolate Literary Society

We kick off the New Year on Monday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, with a discussion of *The Family Fang* led by Gerry Carron. Kevin Wilson's debut novel is one of the smartest and strangest books you'll read all year. It is a masterfully executed tale that is as bizarre as it is touching and provides a keen sense of the complex performances that unfold in the relationships of people who love one another,

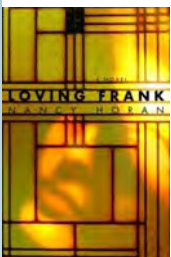


Mr. and Mrs. Fang called it art. Their children called it mischief. Performance artists Caleb and Camille Fang dedicated themselves to making great art. But when an artist's work lies in subverting normality, it can be difficult to raise well-adjusted children. Just ask Buster and Annie Fang. For as long as they can remember, they starred (unwillingly) in their parents' madcap pieces. But now that they are grown up, the chaos of their childhood has made it difficult to cope with life outside the fishbowl of their parents' strange world. When the lives they've built come crashing down, brother and sister have nowhere to go but home, where they discover that Caleb and Camille are planning one last performance – their magnum opus – whether the kids agree to participate or not. Soon, ambition breeds conflict, bringing the Fangs to face the difficult decision about what's ultimately more important: their family or their art.

*"I have been standing on the side of life, watching it float by. I want to swim in the river. I want to feel the current."* So writes Mamah Borthwick Cheney in her diary as she struggles to justify her clandestine love affair with Frank Lloyd Wright. Four years earlier, in 1903, Mamah and her husband, Edwin, had commissioned the renowned architect to design a new home for them. During the construction of the house, a powerful attraction developed between Mamah and Frank, and in time the lovers, each married with children, embarked on a course that would shock Chicago society and forever change their lives.

In this ambitious debut novel, fact and fiction blend together brilliantly. While scholars have largely relegated Mamah to a footnote in the life of America's greatest architect, author Nancy Horan gives full weight to their dramatic love story and illuminates Cheney's profound influence on Wright. Kay George will lead our discussion.

The February selection is *Loving Frank* by Nancy Horan.



There will be a special event in March. Passover begins at sundown on March 25<sup>th</sup> which is our scheduled meeting of the AWCLS. Bobbi Klein has volunteered to host a Seder dinner on that evening. Our reading material will be that which is used during the dinner. This is an extraordinary experience and we hope that you will join us. Please see additional information elsewhere in this newsletter.

We meet at Friends Place Adult Day Services, 1960 Nantucket Drive in Richardson, at 6:00PM on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month. Even if you don't have a chance to read the featured books, we hope that you will join us for a great time of fun, fellowship, discussion and sharing.

**Your Business Ad Can Go Here!**

An advertisement in *Altrusa Tidings* is a great way to spread the word about your services or products!

Ads are business card-sized; \$25 for one insertion, \$100 for six consecutive months.

Camera-ready content due by 15<sup>th</sup> of month; fee must be paid to Treasurer by third Thursday of month prior to publication.

Contact *Tidings* Editor for contracts and guidelines

Rose Garrett-Daughety  
Executive Director

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## Meeting Preview

### **BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION, DISTRICT VISITOR SCHEDULED FOR FEB. 21 MEETING**

*By Mary Beth McLemore, Membership Recruitment Committee Chair*

Adventures in Altrusa - Happy 46<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Altrusa of Richardson! From Patsy Reynolds, our first President, working with the Dallas Club for over a year to form Altrusa International Inc. of Richardson, Texas, to the present day, our Club has served the local community, built leadership in women, and formed lasting friendships.

Altrusa District Nine Director from Temple, TX, Linda Moore, will be our special guest. Linda has been an active member of Altrusa International Inc of Temple since 1999. Since that time, she has served this club in various positions including Club Treasurer, President-Elect and 2005-2006 Club President. She has served on the Club Foundation Board twice and is currently Foundation Treasurer. Linda has worked on and chaired and co-chaired numerous club committees and fundraisers including Caring Ball, a fundraiser for the Temple Community Free Clinic, and the 2009 District Nine Conference.

Come hear more about the history of our Club, enjoy the laughter with friends, and celebrate with MANY surprise adventures, including the food. Prizes and fun are the Recruitment Committee's goal for a great night. This is a perfect opportunity to introduce your friends to Altrusa Adventures!

Our committee is pictured below, making big plans for our 46th birthday celebration to be an enjoyable adventure!



## Meeting Highlights

### **JANUARY 17 MEETING FEATURED "ADVENTURES IN RICHARDSON"**

*By Gay McAlister, Program Committee*



Our January program speaker was Sue Walker, who came to Richardson in 2003 with more than 24 years of economic development experience after majoring in communications at Abilene Christian University and the University of Texas at Austin. She owned and operated a small business for more than 20 years, and is a graduate of the Economic Development Institute at the University of Oklahoma. Sue updated Altrusans on the good news regarding the current status of Richardson's economic development.

Sue educated members on the intricacies of attracting and obtaining prime tenants for Richardson malls and the surprising length of time that it takes to secure appropriate tenants. Latest announcements for multi-million dollar leases and thousands of new jobs include the addition of State Farm Insurance and Fossil headquarters.

In order to create space for new development, some older properties have been razed, which is the culmination of months, or years, of negotiation. Revitalization and remodeling of shopping centers is an ongoing project and has attracted a plethora of new restaurants, with more than 20+ ethnic flavors represented. Huge amounts of space have been allocated to the emerging software centers, gaming, and computer support, including id software and Kingsisle.

A most delightful conclusion to Sue's program was her announcement of the high esteem in which Altrusa is held by the Richardson community and Sue's proclamation of interest in joining our membership herself! We look forward to having Sue visit us again!

Meeting Highlights

**DECEMBER 20 MEETING HAD INTERNATIONAL FLAIR, UNIQUE ENTERTAINMENT**

By Jane Merz, Membership Retention Committee

Our annual Holiday Celebration was especially festive this year. A huge crowd of almost 100 members and their guests, dressed to the nines, attended the dinner held at the Richardson Woman's Club. Sparkle and glitter were not only reflected in the attire, but also in the gorgeous décor created by the Membership Retention Committee. Louise Sweeden's Weddings and Celebrations catered the delicious affair. I glimpsed Louise coming out of the kitchen and was pleased to see she was up-and-around following a serious illness.

The unveiling of our spectacular new banner which can be used at service projects and other events was a highlight of the evening.

President Kimberly Kierce's theme, "*Discover Altrusa: Your Passport to Adventure,*" was effectively carried out with entertainment provided by Yallah! Dance Co., featuring an International flair. The dancers in their beautiful costumes, including our own President Kimberly, and the handsome drummers were spectacular. Mary and Francis Osentowski led us in a sing-a-long of familiar Christmas music. I think "The Twelve Days of Christmas" was quite amazing!

The Retention Committee wishes you all a very Happy New Year!





## Special Report

**WORLD DAY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE**

In 2007, the United Nations General Assembly declared that 20 February will be celebrated annually as the World Day of Social Justice. They urged all Member States to devote this special day to the promotion, at the national level, of concrete activities in accordance with the objectives and goals of the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly. Look here for more information: <http://www.un.org/en/events/>

## Meeting Highlights

**FOUR NEW MEMBERS INITIATED DECEMBER 6**

Pictured above are our newest Richardson Altrusans:

- Caity Post, sponsored by Susan Fischer and Kimberly Kierce
- Lynn Solomon, sponsored by Nancy Rohm and Bonnie Perry
- Dean Burroughs, sponsored by Bonnie Perry and Cindy Murray
- Laura Maczka, sponsored by Susan Fischer and Kimberly Kierce

An adult activity center designed to enable individuals to maintain a life with dignity, meaning & purpose, while remaining as independent as possible.



Friends Place  
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Providing daytime memory care programs & services to benefit participants as well as their families including:



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Member Highlights

**SUE MCELVEEN FEATURED IN LAKE HIGHLANDS ADVOCATE**

Reprinted with permission



This article is 4 of 16 in the 12.2012 issue.

On one of the first cold days of the year, Oct. 27, Sue McElveen, a volunteer at the North Dallas-based Network of Community Ministries, led a project that required massive manpower and impeccable organization. McElveen oversees Network’s Santa Holiday Project, which last year provided presents to more than 2,300 painstakingly vetted children from the Richardson Independent School District. On this wintry Saturday, she and her team of helpers – elves, if you will – interviewed some 300 Far North Dallas, Richardson and Lake Highlands families,



mostly recommended by counselors at one of RISD’s 38 elementary schools, in an effort to ensure that Network’s resources go to our area’s most-deserving and in-need recipients. “There are fairly strict guidelines, including that you can’t use the service more than three consecutive years,” she explains. “Like all the services at Network, it’s about giving a hand up, not a handout.” McElveen usually starts the Santa Holiday Project process in August – meeting with school representatives and volunteers and updating requisite paperwork. (She says she would have no hope of

keeping track of everything were it not for data-keeping elf Betty Lanz.) Families with elementary-school children qualify, but once they are accepted, all children in the family, even teens, receive gifts. Parents are allowed to pick 3-4 items for each child – athletic balls, board games, brand new books and dolls – all donated to Network by neighbors, companies and churches. Throughout November and December, volunteers Val and Don Tarrent run the overflowing toy warehouse where more elves sort gifts before parents arrive to pick up opaque grey bags packed with presents that would be impossible without this program. The work is difficult but rewarding, McElveen says. She still gets choked up when she talks about those she has met. “One woman came in and I thought she was here to get help for her family, but instead she told me she brought toys to donate, that we had helped her before and now she wanted to thank us and help another family.” –Christina Hughes Babb



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**NETWORK**, with support from volunteers like Sue McElveen, helps people in the Lake Highlands area achieve long-term independence through various programs. Photos by Danny Fulgencio. Visit [network.org](http://network.org) for more information.

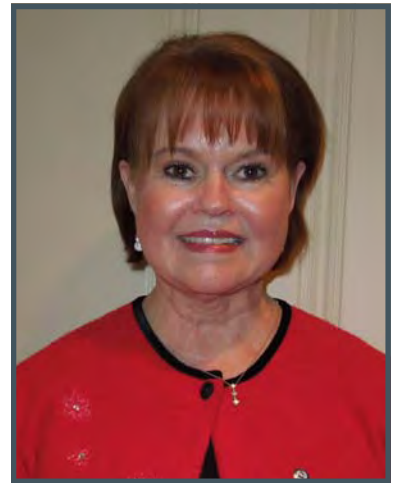


**Member Highlights****NEW MEMBER DEAN BURROUGHS**

My name is Dean Burroughs and I am originally from Hammond, Louisiana. I am one of three sisters and we all now live here in the Dallas/Richardson area. Just from my two sisters, I am blessed with two awesome Brother-in-laws, four nephews, and one niece, and from them I am blessed with four great nieces and four great nephews and twins on the way in April!!! WOW!! What a family!! I have not lived in the same town as my family since 1974 so I am sooo EXCITED to live here now to be right in the middle of their lives!! I am a PROUD Aunt!!!

I graduated from Southeastern Louisiana University in 1974 with a BA degree in Business Education. I did teach for a few years; then moving around a lot curtailed my teaching career!! I have had jobs in Sales, where I continued teaching with power point presentations, Real Estate (currently trying to get my licensed transferred here from Missouri), and I am currently a Mary Kay Sales Director earning the use of six free cars!!! Driving Free is for me!!!! I also am currently working for Extend Health here in Richardson which is a Medicare Exchange company and I love the city of Richardson!!!

I am very excited to be in Altrusa, as community involvement is very important to me and being new to the area, I thought this would be a great way to learn about the city! My sponsor, Bonnie Perry, is such a dear friend to me; even though I just met her in August, we just hit it off as two Southern ladies would!! I just follow her around and I have gotten so involved in our Church and now Altrusa! Thank you, Bonnie!! Also, I am very excited to become an Altrusan with my sister, Lynn Solomon, as we can grow in our Altrusan life together!! I am anxious to get to know my "new family" in Altrusa!! Thank you!!!

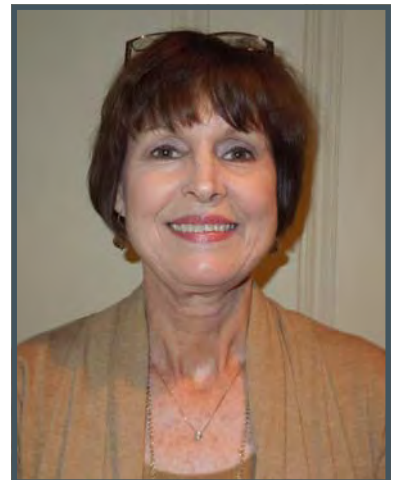
**Member Highlights****NEW MEMBER LYNN SOLOMON**

My name is Lynn Solomon and I am a proud Southern Belle from Hammond, Louisiana, which is a small town North of New Orleans. I am also now a proud member of Altrusa! My sister, Dean Burroughs, and I were recently initiated together, and what a proud moment that was for both of us! Dean moved to Richardson several months ago, and at church one Sunday, Bonnie Perry suggested that Dean should join Altrusa as a way for her to become involved with the community and meet new friends. So we decided that we would join together! What a good decision that has turned out to be! I sincerely appreciate my wonderful sponsor, Nancy Rohm, making sure that I have felt welcome and appreciated!

I am married to Mark Solomon and we have two children. Our son, Mark Jr., lives in Frisco with his wife, April, and their 3 children, Taylor, Annika, and Brady. We have a daughter, Courtney, who lives in Richardson with her husband, Jamie, and their 2 year old daughter, Cassidy. They are expecting twins in late March!

Mark and I have owned and operated Assurnet Insurance Agency in Richardson for the last 25 years. For the last 17 years, I have also been employed on a full time basis with Education Service Center Region 10 in Richardson. I serve as the Administrative Assistant to the Chief Financial Officer. Mark is currently serving in his second term as the City Councilman for Place 2 on the Richardson City Council.

Again, my thanks to all of you for your enthusiastic welcome to Altrusa!



## Member Highlights

### NEW MEMBER LAURA MACZKA

I was born in Liberal Kansas famous for being “Dorothy’s town” (Wizard of Oz) and home of International Pancake Day. If you ever run into one of my sons, ask them to sing the Pancake Day song...you’ll get a much better picture then.

My family relocated to Richardson when I was in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade and I graduated from Pearce High School. I had the good fortune of getting into and graduating from the engineering school at Texas A&M...something I’m quite confident I could not do today! My husband, Mike, and I met the second day our freshman year, dated all through college and will soon celebrate our 24<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary! Our house is full of activity and testosterone with three teenage boys and a 130 pound male dog named Nick! You can only imagine our grocery bills...but I absolutely love having them and their friends hanging out.

Mike and I lived in Houston for a short period where I began my career in the non-profit arena. I started with United Way, went to the Texas Heart Institute where I raised money for heart transplant and cancer among other service lines. Memorable life moment...seeing a heart transplant...wow! A job change brought us back to Richardson where we have been for 16 years.

After taking time off to raise my sons, I rejoined the workforce and currently serve as Executive Director the Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship which provides for credit entrepreneurship education for 2000 disadvantaged youth in DISD each year.

I am driven by the following from Luke 12.48 “to whom much is given, much is required”. God has blessed me with much and I do my best to give back. I have been actively involved in the community as a volunteer and have served on numerous boards. In 2011, I was honored by the citizens of Richardson to be elected to City Council and chosen by my peers on Council to serve as Mayor Pro Tem. I feel so blessed to have the opportunity to work among amazing leaders from organizations like Altrusa and to serve the community I love.



## Member Highlights

### NEW MEMBER CAITY POST

Caity Post was born in Albany, New York, but had already broken in her little red cowgirl boots by the time she moved to Texas at age six. She spent her grade school years moving back and forth between Duncanville and Central America. After graduating from Duncanville High School, where she was on the debate and drill teams, she moved to College Station and earned a degree in Political Science at Texas A&M. (Whoop!) Caity was then honored to work for U.S. Congressman Sam Johnson for over three years (where she met her awesome sponsor, Susan Fischer) before taking her current job as Director of Communication and Operations for the Dallas Pregnancy Resource Center, a faith-based non-profit that ministers to women experiencing unplanned pregnancies. She is currently pursuing a Master of Arts degree in Communication from The Johns Hopkins University and looks forward to completing the program this December.

When not working or studying, Caity likes to spend time with friends and family. Her parents and older brother live in the Dallas area, and the family enjoys getting together often for hiking adventures and Pinochle tournaments. Caity’s other loves: dancing, talking politics, crafting, traveling, and drinking great coffee.

Caity is excited to be an Altrusan because of the wonderful opportunity it provides to serve and plug into the Richardson community. She looks forward to learning from the other ladies and hopes to be a part of Altrusa for many years to come.



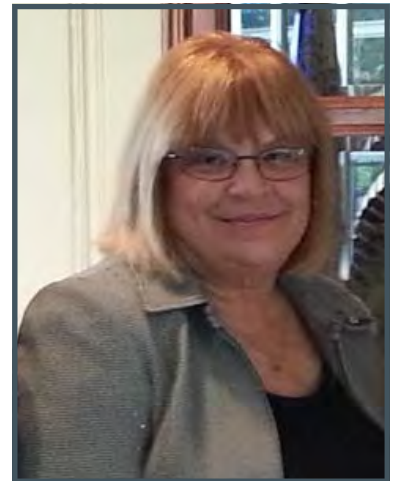


## Member Highlights

### **NEW MEMBER IRENE STREJC**

I am originally an Illinois resident, although I have lived—literally!—from coast to coast and border to border: New York, California, Pittsburgh, and Wisconsin as well as Texas and have enjoyed every adventure. I have been a nurse since 1972, and have a Bachelors Degree in Nursing and a Masters in Public Health Administration from Benedictine University in Lisle, Illinois.

I married my high school sweetheart, Roy, in 1971, and we have three grown children: Lisa, Timothy, and Linda. We have three grandchildren, Anna Marie, Sean, and Ian. I have been a chief nursing officer for over thirty years and love partnering with hospital leaders and staff to create a great place of caring for patients as well as a great place to work. We have lived in Richardson since 2010, and I enjoy my Canyon Creek neighborhood and the daily puppies on patrol parade that passes by our window. I am employed by Methodist Richardson Medical Center. When not working, I play piano, and I love reading, sailing, and walks in the parks with our three puppies.



## Member Highlights

### **KAY HOPPER ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT FROM THE WARREN CENTER**

*Source: The Warren Center press release*

Kay Hopper, Chief Executive Officer for The Warren Center (formerly known as Richardson Development Center), a Dallas-based non-profit organization for children with developmental differences and disabilities, has announced her retirement, effective January 31, 2013, after 29 years of dedicated service.

During her tenure at The Warren Center, Hopper was instrumental in the growth and success of the organization, increasing Early Childhood Intervention enrollment from 100 children in 1995 when she took the reins as Executive Director, to the current number of 500 children. Hopper also managed a successful capital campaign to finance The Warren Center's move into an expansive 10,000 square foot therapy center in 2007 that currently services over 1,400 individuals annually. As Executive Director, Hopper led the agency through two successful acquisitions in 2009 and 2011, allowing the Center to serve children and families in the northeast quadrant of Dallas County, including Garland, the Park Cities, north and east Dallas, and Rowlett, almost tripling the ECI service area and doubling the staff size. Each year Hopper spearheaded The Warren Center's annual fundraising event, Fantasy Football Draft Night, an event held at Dallas Cowboys stadium that last year alone earned over \$325,000 for the Center. In addition to leading these growth initiatives, Hopper also expanded the depth of services offered by the Center, adding a Family Outreach and Support program as a resource for parents and families of disabled children that includes training and support groups.

As a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization, The Warren Center is committed to developing a child's potential and building a stronger family. Each year, The Warren Center enables 1,400 children to improve motor, speech, feeding, cognition, social skills, and sensory difficulties. The Warren Center believes that every child deserves wings. Children born with disabilities or developmental differences need special care to spread their wings and reach their potential. Success is found when a child receives early treatment and a family is able to provide a loving and supportive environment for their child to grow, be accepted, and become a valued member of the community. For more information on The Warren Center visit [www.thewarrencenter.org](http://www.thewarrencenter.org).



## District Nine News

**CONFERENCE PACKET IS AVAILABLE ON DISTRICT WEBSITE**

From [www.altrusadistrictnine.org](http://www.altrusadistrictnine.org)

The ladies of Altrusa Dallas are hosting District Nine Conference in Frisco, April 19-21. Everything you need to know can be found on the District website, [www.altrusadistrictnine.org](http://www.altrusadistrictnine.org).



*Altrusa Dreamin'*

**Fifty-Seventh District Nine Conference**  
**April 19-21, 2013 • Frisco, Texas**

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**2013 CONFERENCE PACKET**

You are invited to

*Altrusa Dreamin'*

**at the Fifty-Seventh Annual Conference  
 District Nine, Altrusa International Inc.**

**APRIL 19-21, 2013**

**Embassy Suites Frisco  
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This packet will provide you with all you need to know to make your trip to the Dallas area and join us in Frisco. Please share its contents with all your club members and encourage everyone to come. We look forward to dreaming about Altrusa with you!

Information included in this packet:

- Meet Our International Representative
- Conference Service Project
- International Foundation Silent Auction
- Club Display
- Memorial Form
- Registration Form
- Hotel Information
- Vendor Form
- Program Ad Form
- Schedule
- Fun Night
- What to Wear
- Sights
- Checklist



## International Foundation News

**OBITUARY: CINDI BUXTON, IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR OF ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION**

Cynthia Ann (Cindi) Buxton, Immediate Past Chair of the Altrusa International Foundation, Inc., died at her family home in Alton, IL on December 6, 2012 surrounded by family and friends, after a brief battle with Pancreatic Cancer. Cindi became an Altrusan in 1990, and attained numerous elected positions including President of the St. Louis Club. At the District level, Cindi served as District Eight Treasurer 2000-2002 and Second Vice Governor from 2002-2004. Cindi relocated to New York and served as the President of the New York Club from 2006-2007. Cindi was elected to the Altrusa International Foundation Board in 2007 by the delegate body at the Altrusa International Convention in Orlando, FL. After serving two years as Trustee, the Foundation Board elected Cindi as Chair of the International Foundation for the 2009-2011 biennium. Cindi was currently serving as the Immediate Past Chair of the

Foundation. Her leadership was respected and admired throughout the world. Cindi Buxton leaves a legacy of service to the worldwide community. She lent her talents and gave her time, not only to Altrusa, but to the Girl Scouts of America, the American Cancer Society, the United Way, and many other charitable causes. Cindi continued her father's interest in genealogy by serving several years as Treasurer, Vice-President and President of the Buxton Family Association. She is survived by her siblings, Charles H. Buxton, Alton, IL, Michael P. Buxton, Elkridge, MD, and Rebecca C. Buxton, Sammamish, WA.

**INFORMATION NEEDED:****MEMORIAL DONATION TO BE MADE TO FOUNDATION**

Altrusa Richardson will make a donation to Altrusa International Foundation in honor of Altrusans and their immediate family members who have passed away in the last year. In order to make sure that our list is complete, we are asking for your assistance. If you know of someone who should be included in this memorial donation, please contact Toni Garrett (see our online directory for contact information) before February 16, 2013.

## International News

**A NOTE FROM PRESIDENT DONA GARRETSON**

How can it be December 2012?

Well it is, and day by day we draw closer to the grand opportunity to be a part of the 2013 Altrusa International Convention in Rotorua, New Zealand, July 26-29, 2013. I am pleased to share with you the easy online registration that is now in place for all of us in order to book total travel plans at a one stop shop location. January and February are fantastic months for travel specials to New Zealand; don't wait too long and take the chance of missing special fares. World Travellers is ready and waiting to assist us in finding the best opportunities.

More than anything, my wish is that you will take this time to add to your New Year's resolutions and include at the very top of the list a commitment to attend this very special 2013 Convention. I promise you that you will be glad that did and will return home with lifetime memories that you will forever cherish.

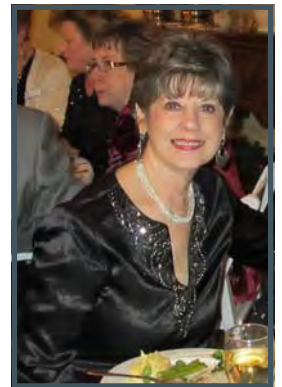
Dona M Garretson  
International President  
Altrusa International, Inc.

(See [www.altrusa.org.nz/convention.html](http://www.altrusa.org.nz/convention.html) for more information.)



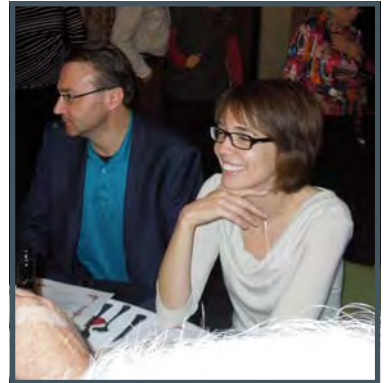
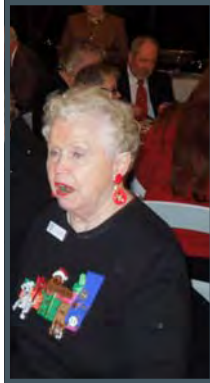
*Dona is pictured holding a native New Zealand tuatara.*

**OUR HOLIDAY PARTY**



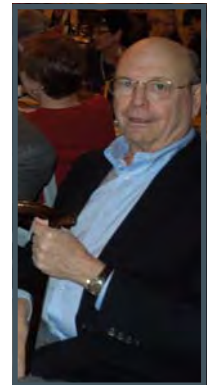
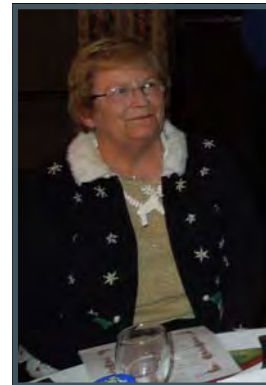


**OUR HOLIDAY PARTY**



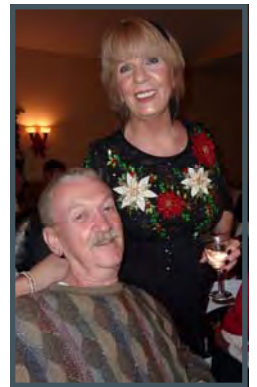


**OUR HOLIDAY PARTY**





**OUR HOLIDAY PARTY**



## Club Calendar January 2013

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3 <b>Business Meeting</b>	4	5 <i>Mary Beth McLemore bday</i>
6	7	8	9 Seniors: Atria Bingo	10 Retention: SMALLS dinner	11	12
13	14	15	16 <i>Jan Belcher, Janice Swallow bday</i>	17 <b>Dinner Meeting</b>	18 <i>Jenn Rohm bday</i>	19
20	21	22	23 <i>Mimi Tanner bday</i>	24 Board Meeting	25	26 Retention: New Year, New You
27	28	29	30	31 <i>Toni Garrett bday</i>		

Business Meetings, 7 pm, 1st Thursday, Clubhouse at the Richardson Woman's Club

Dinner/Program meetings, 7pm, 3rd Thursday, Founders' Hall, at the Richardson Woman's Club

Board meetings, 6 pm, 4th Thursday, Friends Place Adult Day Services

Events on this calendar are copied from the calendar on our website. See the event listing at [www.altrusarichardson.com](http://www.altrusarichardson.com) for details of time and place.

If you choose, you may bring a gift (worth about \$5) to the dinner meeting in the month of your birthday. There will be an opportunity to put our names in a drawing (only \$1 per chance!) to win a birthday gift. Proceeds are used for our administration budget.

Altrusa International, Inc. of Richardson, Texas  
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[contact@altrusarichardson.com](mailto:contact@altrusarichardson.com)  
[www.altrusarichardson.com](http://www.altrusarichardson.com)



# Club Calendar February 2013

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 Intl Relations Cmte meeting; <b>Business Meeting</b>	8	9
10	11 Retention: Bridge, 6:30, Mary O's home	12	13 Seniors: Atria Bingo	14 Retention: SMALLS Dinner	15 Stefani Carter, Marsha Peters bday	16 Orientation/ Reorientation at Friends Place
17 Jane Tucker bday	18	19	20 World Day of Social Justice	21 Board Meeting; <b>Dinner Meeting;</b> Jill VanOs bday	22	23 Ability House Vera's bday
24 Deb Bourland bday	25	26	27	28		

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**Note from the Editor:**

Special thanks to photographers Barbara Cornelius, Genevieve Hamulak, Mary Beth McLemore, and Jan Skinner. They unselfishly spent a good deal of time at our holiday party, taking dozens of photos so all our smiling faces could appear in our newsletter.

**Another Note from the Editor:**

We are fortunate that Linda Olivera has returned to the fold from the Greenville Club. Linda lives in Lone Oak, so it can be difficult for her to attend our meetings, but she is just an email away from making her long-standing contribution as eagle-eyed proofreader! Thanks, Linda, for your help with this issue (and more to come) of **Altrusa Tidings!**